Claims 1-24 (Canceled)

25. (Pending) A tape dispensing system for merging and dispensing a length of tape formed by two, separate and independent components, ready for application to a package, said dispensing system comprising:

A. a first holding zone constructed for supportingly retaining a supply of tape, said tape comprising an elongated carrier member and adhesive material affixed to one surface of the carrier member substantially covering said surface;

B. a second holding zone constructed for supporting an elongated length of a cooperating element, said cooperating element having a width less than the width of the tape; and

C. a feed assembly for

1. simultaneously receiving tape from the first holding zone and the cooperating element from the second holding zone,

2. merging the cooperating element with the tape to form an elongated strip of an enhanced package closing member, and

3. enabling a desired length of the enhanced package closing member to be advanced therefrom;

whereby a desired length of tape is dispensed with a cooperating element incorporated therewith and integrally attached thereto, effectively achieving a fully integrated, package closing member dispensed as a single component, ready for affixation to a package.

26. (Pending) The tape dispensing system defined in Claim 25, wherein said system further comprises:

D. a cutting blade mounted in cooperating association with the feed assembly for enabling the combined tape and cooperating element to be dispensed and cut to any desired length.

27. (Pending) The tape dispensing system defined in Claim 26, wherein said system further comprises:

E. a handle member constructed for

a. supporting the first and second holding zones and the guide means, and

b. enabling the entire tape dispensing system to be easily held by an individual, carried to any location, and employed for dispensing a desired length of tape.

28. (Pending) The tape dispensing system defined in Claim 27, wherein said cooperating element is further defined as comprising an elongated, narrow, substan-

tially continuous strip of material, said material being formed as at least one selected from the group consisting of an indicia bearing element, an adhesive element, a tape reinforcing element, a tape tear out element, a print bearing element, an optically readable element, and an electronic communication element.

29. (Pending) The tape dispensing system defined in Claim 28, wherein the electronic communication element is further defined as comprising an RFID device.

30. (Pending) The tape dispensing system defined in Claim 29, wherein said elongated, narrow, substantially continuous strip of material forming the cooperating element is further defined as being formed as a substantially continuous roll and said second holding zone is further defined as comprising a support member for securely retaining the substantially continuous roll of the cooperating element and enabling said cooperating element to be dispensed therefrom when desired.

31. (Pending) The tape dispensing system defined in Claim 30, wherein said supply of tape is further defined as being formed as a substantially continuous roll, and said first holding zone incorporates a support member for securely retaining the substantially continuous roll of tape and enabling said tape to be dispensed therefrom when desired.

32. (Pending) The tape dispensing system defined in Claim 28, wherein said carrier member forming the tape is further defined as comprising at least one selected from the group consisting of paper, plastic, cloth, fiber, fiberglass, polymer, polypropylene, polyester, polyvinyl chloride, metal film, polymer plastic film, composite of plastic polymer and paper, combinations of two or more of these materials, and laminates formed by combining two or more of these materials.

33. (Pending) The tape dispensing system defined in Claim 32, wherein said adhesive material is further defined as comprising at least one selected from the group consisting of pressure sensitive adhesive, water activated adhesives, and heat activated adhesives.

34. (Pending) The tape dispensing system defined in Claim 28, wherein the package is further defined as comprising two, juxtaposed, cooperating, pivotable flaps defining the entry portal of the package and the dispensed tape is further defined as being affixable to the flaps of the package for securely closing and sealing the adjacent flaps of the package and the cooperating element is further defined as comprising a tape reinforcing element, whereby said tape reinforcing element is usable to automatically sever the length of tape affixed to the flaps of the package by merely lifting and removing said reinforcing element from the tape and the package, thereby enabling ready and easy access to the package.

35. (Pending) The tape dispensing system defined in Claim 28, wherein the cooperating element is further defined as comprising pressure sensitive adhesive affixed thereto for enabling the cooperating element to be securely affixed to the carrier member of the tape during the merging thereof.

36. (Pending) The tape dispensing system defined in Claim 26, wherein said cutting blade is further defined as being positioned relative to the roller for assuring that any length of combined tape and cooperating element dispensed therefrom comprises substantially equal length of both components, whereby the entire length of tape affixed to the package incorporates a cooperating element extending the entire length thereof.

37. (Pending) The tape dispensing system defined in Claim 36, wherein the cutting blade is further defined as comprising two, juxtaposed, spaced, cooperating cutting elements extending substantially perpendicularly from the cutting blade and positioned for forming two slits at the terminating end of the dispensed length of tape, said slits being positioned on opposite sides of said cooperating element for forming a readily accessible pull tab therewith.

38. (Pending) The tape dispensing system defined in Claim 26, wherein said feed assembly further comprises a plurality of rollers for continuously feeding and

advancing the tape and the cooperating element for providing the desired merging of the cooperating element with the tape during the dispensing thereof.

39. (Pending) The tape assembly defined in Claim 28, wherein said feed assembly further comprises a guide means for maintaining the tape and the cooperating element in the desired path to provide merging and dispensing thereof.

40. (Pending) The tape assembly defined in Claim 26, and further comprising a plurality of strands of reinforcing members affixed to the carrier layer and extending substantially the entire length of the carrier layer.

41. (Pending) The tape assembly defined in Claim 40, wherein said reinforcing strands are further defined as comprising one selected from the group consisting of plastics, organic fibers, non-organic fibers, metallic fibers, and carbon fibers.

42. (Pending) The tape assembly defined in Claim 41, wherein said strands are further defined as being mounted to the carrier layer in an overlapping network of juxtaposed, spaced, parallel elements.

43. (Pending) A completely portable, easily employed tape dispensing system for merging and dispensing a length of tape formed by two, separate and independent components, ready for application to a package, said dispensing system comprising:

A. a frame assembly;

B. a first holding zone mounted to the frame assembly and constructed for supportingly retaining a supply of tape, said tape comprising an elongated carrier member and adhesive material affixed to one surface of the carrier member substantially covering said surface;

C. a second holding zone mounted to the frame assembly and constructed for supporting an elongated length of a cooperating element, said cooperating element having a width less than the width of the tape;

D. a feed assembly supportingly retained on the frame assembly and constructed for

1. simultaneously receiving tape from the first holding zone and the cooperating element from the second holding zone,

2. merging the cooperating element with the tape to form an elongated strip of an enhanced package closing member, and

3. enabling a desired length of the enhanced package closing member to be advanced therefrom;

E. a cutting blade mounted in cooperating association with the feed assembly for enabling the combined tape and cooperating element to be dispensed and cut to any desired length

F. a handle member interconnected with the frame assembly and constructed for

a. supporting the first and second holding zones and the guide means, and

b. enabling the entire tape dispensing system to be easily held by an individual, carried to any location, and employed for dispensing a desired length of tape

whereby a compact, mobile, easily held dispensing system is achieved for enabling a desired length of tape to be dispensed with a cooperating element incorporated therewith and integrally attached thereto, effectively achieving a fully integrated, package closing member dispensed as a single component, ready for affixation to a package.

44. (Pending) The portable, easily employed tape dispensing system defined in Claim 43, wherein said cooperating element is further defined as comprising an elongated, narrow, substantially continuous strip of material, said material being formed as at least one selected from the group consisting of an indicia bearing element, an adhesive element, a tape reinforcing element, a tape tear out element, a print

bearing element, an optically readable element, and an electronic communication element.

45. (Pending) The portable, easily employed tape dispensing system defined in Claim 44, wherein said elongated, narrow, substantially continuous strip of material forming the cooperating element is further defined as being formed as a substantially continuous roll and said second holding zone is further defined as comprising a support member for securely retaining the substantially continuous roll of the cooperating element and enabling said cooperating element to be dispensed therefrom when desired.

46. (Pending) The portable, easily employed tape dispensing system defined in Claim 45, wherein said carrier member forming the tape is further defined as comprising at least one selected from the group consisting of paper, plastic, cloth, fiber, fiberglass, polymer, polypropylene, polyester, polyvinyl chloride, metal film, polymer plastic film, composite of plastic polymer and paper, combinations of two or more of these materials, and laminates formed by combining two or more of these materials.

47. (Pending) The portable, easily employed tape dispensing system defined in Claim 46, wherein said cutting blade is further defined as being positioned relative to the roller for assuring that any length of combined tape and cooperating element

dispensed therefrom comprises substantially equal length of both components, whereby the entire length of tape affixed to the package incorporates a cooperating element extending the entire length thereof.

48, (Pending) The portable, easily employed tape dispensing system defined in Claim 47, wherein the cutting blade is further defined as comprising two, juxtaposed, spaced, cooperating cutting elements extending substantially perpendicularly from the cutting blade and positioned for forming two slits at the terminating end of the dispensed length of tape, said slits being positioned on opposite sides of said cooperating element for forming a readily accessible pull tab therewith.

49. (Pending) The portable, easily employed tape dispensing system defined in Claim 48 and further comprising a plurality of strands of reinforcing members affixed to the carrier layer and extending substantially the entire length of the carrier layer.

50. (Withdrawn) A method for closing and sealing two adjacent flaps of a package while also enabling the closed and sealed package to have enhanced properties, said method comprising the steps of:

A. removing a length of tape from a tape supply;

B. removing a length of an enhancing element from a supply thereof;

C. affixing the enhancing element to the tape to form an enhanced package closing member;

D. cutting a desired length of the enhanced package closing member; and

E. affixing the cut length of the enhanced package closing member to the flaps of the container for closing and sealing the container and incorporating therein the enhanced properties provided by the enhancing element.

51. (Withdrawn) The method defined in Claim 50, wherein the enhancing element is further defined as comprising one selected from the group consisting of indicia bearing elements, tape reinforcing elements, tape tear out elements, print bearing elements, optically readable elements, and electronic communication elements.

52. (Withdrawn) A method for closing and sealing two adjacent flaps of a package while also enabling the closed and sealed package to be quickly and easily opened, when desired, said method comprising the steps of:

A. removing a length of tape from a tape supply;

B. removing a length of a tape tear strip from a supply thereof;

C. affixing the tape tear strip to the tape substantially along the longitudinally extending centerline of the tape;

D. cutting a desired length of the combined tape tear strip and tape; and

E. affixing the length of the combined tape tear strip and tape to the flaps of the container for closing and sealing the container, while also providing an easily employed tear strip for severing the tape longitudinally along its length whenever desired by a user.

53. (Withdrawn) The method defined in Claim 52, comprising the additional step of:

F. forming two juxtaposed, spaced, parallel slits in one end of the combined tear strip and tape, said slits being formed on opposite sides of the tape tear strip, thereby providing a readily accessible tab member for grasping the tear strip for severing the tape when desired.